

EXETER TOWN WARRANT – 2015

To the inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, in the County of Rockingham, in the said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

**First Session**

You are hereby notified that the first session (the Deliberative Session) of the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Arthur L. Hanson III Center for the Performing Arts at Exeter High School, 1 Blue Hawk Drive. The first session will consist of explanation, discussion and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will also afford voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to warrant articles, except those articles in which wording is prescribed by state law.

**Second Session**

The second session of the annual town meeting, to elect town officers by official ballot and to vote on all warrant articles as they may have been amended at the first session, will be held on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Talbot Gymnasium at the Tuck Learning Center, 30 Linden Street. Polls for voting by official ballot will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

**Article 1**

To choose the following: 1 Moderator for a 2-year term; 1 Selectman for a 3-year term; 1 Supervisor of the Checklist for a 1-year term; 3 Trustees of the Library for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of the Robinson Fund for a 7-year term; 1 Trustee of Swasey Parkway for a 3-year term; 1 Town Treasurer for a 2-year term.

**Article 2 Zoning Amendment #1:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: to make a typographical change to section 5.6.3.B; to provide for an alternative parking calculation in situations where the proposed use is not listed or the applicant believes the required number of spaces is not necessary; and to authorize a phased parking construction plan.

**Article 3 Zoning Amendment #2:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: to amend Article 6 to add a Portsmouth Avenue Flexible Zoning Overlay District to allow an alternative permitting process that results in a more efficient and effective design review process, to inspire more flexibility in site, building, landscape, and lighting design, and to create incentives for improvements within the district boundaries (all properties within the C1 and C2 districts from the intersection of High Street and Portsmouth Avenue north along Portsmouth Avenue to the Exeter Town Line) by providing for a Conditional Use Permit for applicants who wish to build beyond the maximum height and minimum yard setbacks set forth in the Ordinance.

**Article 4 Zoning Amendment #3:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: to amend Article 9.1.5 Permitted Uses by adding to new permitted uses: Projects that reduce impervious surfaces while ensuring the protection of the wetland buffer and projects that re-vegetate or re-vitalize in some way an already disturbed buffer zone.

**Article 5 Zoning Amendment #4:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: amend Article 9.1.6. to delete “waste water disposal systems” as a use permitted by conditional use permit.

**Article 6 Zoning Amendment #5:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: amend Article 9.1.6.B criteria for the issuance of a conditional use permit by adding a requirement that the evaluation of the proposed impact takes the value of the wetland into consideration and is not, to the extent feasible, detrimental to the value and function of the wetland. (and renumbering the section).

**Article 7 Zoning Amendment #6:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: amend Article 9.1.6 to eliminate redundancies in the process for Site and Subdivision Applications by providing that where a proposed activity which requires Planning Board approval involving both a CUP and a waiver, the Applicant shall follow Section 9.9 of the Site Plan Review and Subdivision Regulations and request a waiver(s) from wetland regulations and may also obtain a waiver from Article 9.1.6.A CUP process.

**Article 8 Zoning Amendment #7:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: amend Article 9.4 Floodplain Development Ordinance by making revisions to the following specific Articles as recommended by the NH Office of Energy and Planning.

**Article 9 Zoning Amendment #8:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: amend Article 9.1.3 Wetland Conservation District Boundaries to add an Epping Road Development Buffer and set forth standards to determine the width of said buffers.

**Article 10 Petitioned Zoning Amendment: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #9 submitted by Petition for the town zoning ordinance, as follows:**

To see if the town will vote to Amend Article 4.2 Schedule I: Permitted Uses by deleting the present “Community Buildings” as a use permitted by Special Exception in the R-1, R-2, R-3, & R-4 districts.

The planning board recommends/does not recommend.

## **Article 11**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six million eight hundred forty five thousand and three hundred twelve dollars (\$6,845,312) for the design and construction of roads, water and sewer improvements in the Epping Road Tax Increment District, in accordance with RSA 162-K:8, and to authorize the issuance of not more than (\$6,845,312) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. It is anticipated that no bonds will be issued unless and until debt service can be paid from the tax increment district fund. This article will only become effective subject to the passage of Article 29 and Article 30 of the 2015 Town Warrant.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

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Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 12**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred eleven thousand and zero dollars (\$711,000) for the replacement of culverts and associated bridge reconstruction work on Linden Street and to authorize the issuance of not more than (\$711,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 13**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred and eighty thousand and zero dollars (\$580,000) for the design and construction of concrete sidewalks and curbing, bumpouts, stormwater management structures, and installation of street trees in the greater downtown including Water Street from Great Bridge to Swasey Parkway, and Front Street from the Bandstand to Spring and Elm Streets, and to authorize the issuance of not more than (\$580,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 14**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and seventy five thousand and zero dollars (\$175,000) to add brick paver enhancements to the downtown area sidewalk project in addition to concrete provided for in Article 13 of this Town Warrant and to authorize the issuance of not more than (\$175,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; Debt service will be paid from the general fund (\$175,000). This article will only become effective subject to the passage of Article 13 of the 2015 Town Warrant.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0-1.

#### **Article 15**

To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

#### **Article 16**

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Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$17,225,406. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$17,215,345 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 17**

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a water operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,791,462. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$2,786,400 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 18**

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a sewer operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,496,622. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,428,175 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 19**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items recommended in the fact finders report dated December 31, 2014, and subsequently accepted by the Board of Selectmen and the Exeter Police Association - NEPBA which calls for the following salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary and Benefits Increase	Health Insurance Savings
FY15	\$29,298	(\$25,723)
FY16	\$66,375	(\$51,446)

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FY17

\$37,018

(\$51,446)

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand five hundred and seventy five dollars (\$3,575) for the 2015 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels.

A complete copy of the fact finders report can be found at [exeternh.gov](http://exeternh.gov) and copies will be available at the deliberative session.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

## **Article 20**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven-hundred fifty thousand and zero dollars (\$750,000) for the purpose of constructing widened shoulders (bike paths) and sidewalks on Kingston Road, and further to authorize the withdrawal of \$150,000 from the Arterial Shoulder Widening capital reserve fund with the remaining \$600,000 to be funded through a NHDOT grant; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state, federal and other grants and gifts related to the project. This article will not become effective unless the NHDOT grant is awarded to the Town. This article will not impact the tax rate. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or December 31, 2017, whichever is sooner.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

## **Article 21**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-hundred twenty-two thousand one hundred dollars (\$122,100), for the purpose of mechanical design, engineering, and replacement of 1999 twin gas-fired boilers at the Exeter Public Safety Complex.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

## **Article 22**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of one-hundred thirteen thousand eight hundred and ninety five dollars (\$113,895), for the support of various human service agencies that will serve Exeter residents in 2015:

Agency	Amount
A Safe Place	\$5,500
Area Home Care	\$13,000
Big Brother/Big Sister	\$9,000
CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)	\$500

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Child and Family Services	\$12,000
Crossroads House	\$3,500
Families First	\$3,000
Friends Program (formerly RSVP)	\$2,200
Great Bay Kids	\$2,495
Meals on Wheels – Food	\$9,200
New Generation Shelter	\$2,000
New Heights (formerly New Outlook)	\$3,000
NHSPCA	\$1,400
Richie McFarland Center	\$11,100
Rockingham Community Action	\$11,000
Seacoast Family Promise	\$1,500
Seacoast Mental Health	\$8,500
Seacoast VNA	\$5,000
Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS)	\$3,000
St. Vincent De Paul	\$5,000
Womenade of Greater Squamscott	\$2,000
Total	\$113,895

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 23**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), for the purpose of making improvements to the public safety communications system, to enhance emergency radio communications throughout Exeter. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or December 31, 2016, whichever is sooner.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 24**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for \$267,677 for the purpose of lease/purchasing a replacement for the 2005 Street Sweeper for the Exeter Public Works Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-six thousand four hundred and eighty-two dollars (\$56,482), which represents the first of 5 annual payments for that purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-1.

#### **Article 25**

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To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Snow and Ice Deficit Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from general fund surplus.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 26**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Sick Leave Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from general fund surplus.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 27**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for \$154,561 for a replacement for the 1990 Sno-Go snow blower for the Exeter Public Works Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-two thousand six hundred and fourteen dollars (\$32,614), which represents the first of 5 annual payments for that purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

#### **Article 28**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for \$102,434 for a replacement for the 1993 Fire Alarm Truck for the Exeter Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-one thousand five hundred and seventy-three dollars (\$21,573), which represents the first of 5 annual payments for that purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 2-1-1.

#### **Article 29**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Chapter 162-K of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes, which if adopted will grant the Town authority to establish tax increment financing districts.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

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### **Article 30**

To see if the Town will vote to:

- a) Establish a municipal economic development and revitalization district as shown on a map entitled Proposed Epping Road Tax Increment District (dated January 20, 2015) and which generally encompasses portions of Epping Road east and west of Epping Road. The district will have the name of the Epping Road Tax Increment Financing District.
- b) Authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a District Administrator in accordance with RSA 162-K:13 and create a five member advisory board in accordance with RSA 162-K:14 with membership to be determined by the Selectboard.
- c) Adopt the provisions of the Epping Road Tax Increment District Plan (dated January 20, 2015) in accordance with RSA 162-K:9, which allocates the use of tax increments for retirement of bonds and notes as outlined in the plan.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

### **Article 31**

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into a long term lease of up to 99 years on Town owned land described as Tax Map 98 Lot 3, for the purpose of installing a cellular tower on the property, a portion of which will benefit the Town of Exeter communications systems.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 4-0.

To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015.

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Julie Gilman, Chairwoman

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Daniel W. Chartrand, Vice-Chairman

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Anne L. Surman, Clerk

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Don Clement

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Nancy Belanger

We certify that on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January, 2015, we caused a true copy of the within warrant to be posted at the Exeter Town Hall on Front Street, the Exeter Public Library at Founder's Park,



1/21/15

Exeter High School at 1 Blue Hawk Drive, Talbot Gymnasium at Tuck Learning Campus, 30 Linden Street, and the Town Clerk's Office, 10 Front Street.

Given under our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015.

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Julie Gilman, Chairwoman

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Daniel W. Chartrand, Vice-Chairman

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Anne L. Surman, Clerk

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Don Clement

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Nancy Belanger

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